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Atty. Dkt. No 086142-0493

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SHIOTANI et al.
Title: SEAT BELT RETRACTOR
Appl. No.: 09/985,924
Filing Date: November 6, 2001
Examiner: W.A. Rivera
Art Unit: 3654

**PETITION TO ACCEPT AN UNINTENTIONALLY DELAYED DOMESTIC
PRIORITY CLAIM UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a)(3)**

Box DAC
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a)(3), Applicants hereby petition for acceptance of an unintentionally delayed claim for domestic priority. The benefit of the filing date of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/513,187, filed February 25, 2000, U.S. Patent No. 6,419,176 (issued on July 16, 2002), is hereby requested, and the right of priority provided in 35 U.S.C. § 120 is hereby claimed.

The entire delay from the date the claim was due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a)(2) to the present was unintentional. Failure to submit a timely priority claim resulted because Applicants did not realize that the inventor of the parent application (Mr. Mizuno) was also an inventor of the present application until prosecution of the application had commenced. A request to correct inventorship of the present application is filed concurrently herewith.

This Petition is accompanied by the requisite surcharge under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(t).

Granting of this petition is respectfully requested.

07/30/2003 EASERAKA1 00000056 09985924

01 FD:1454

1200.00 EP

If there are any questions regarding the present filing, please contact the undersigned attorney at the phone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 7/28/03

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